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SOUTHWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Dallas, Texas

Technical information: (972) 850-4800 BLSInfoDallas@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southwest

Media contact: (972) 850-4800

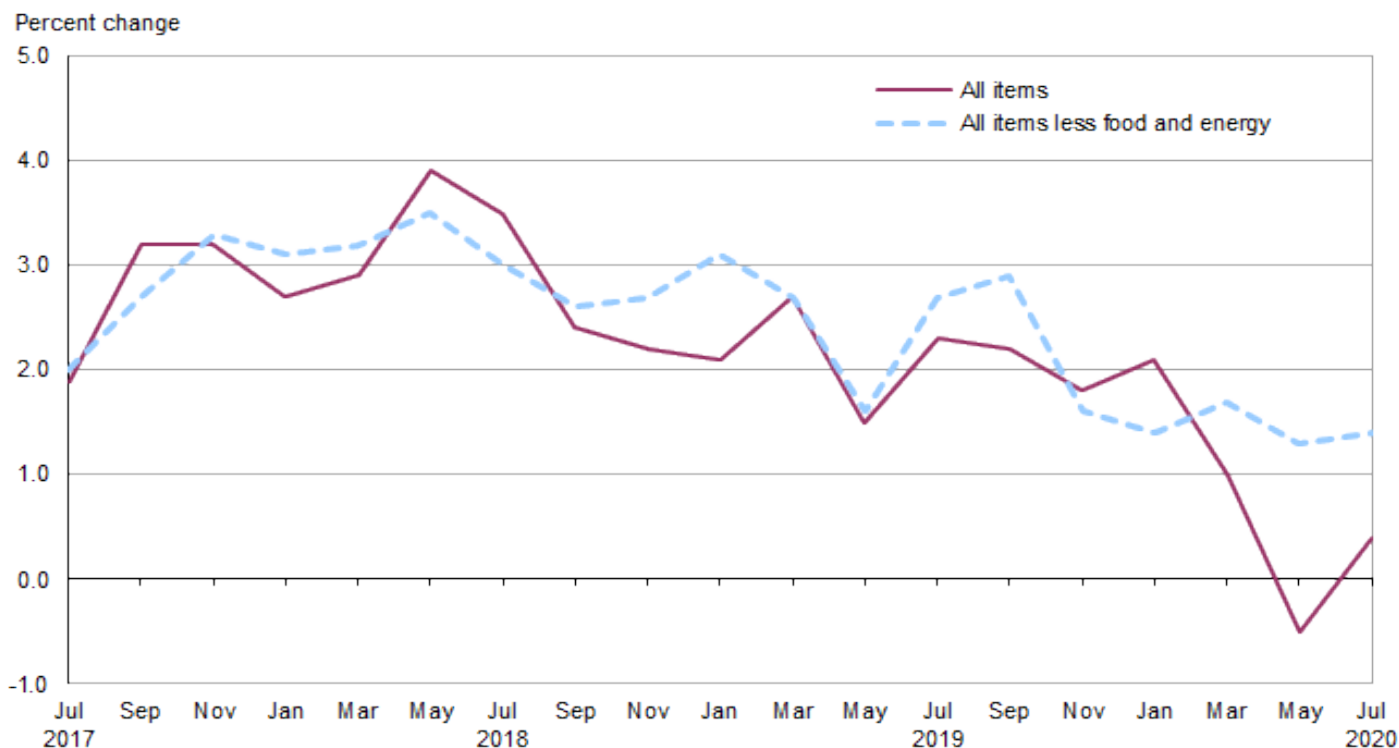
Consumer Price Index, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington area – July 2020

Area prices rise 1.5 percent in June and July and rise 0.4 percent over the year

Prices in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 1.5 percent for the two months ending in July 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table 1](#).) Regional Commissioner Michael Hirniak noted that the bi-monthly increase was primarily driven by a 13.7-percent advance in the energy index, but higher prices within the all items less food and energy index contributed nearly as much. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U increased 0.4 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).) During the 12-month period ending in July 2020, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.4 percent, while food prices rose 2.2 percent. Energy prices fell 12.9 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Dallas, TX, July 2017–July 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.4 percent for the two months ending in July, after increasing 0.5 percent in April and May. The latest movement was the result of a 1.1-percent increase in the food away from home index, as prices for food at home declined 0.3 percent.

During the 12 months ending in July 2020, food prices advanced 2.2 percent, reflecting the combined effects of a 2.3-percent increase in prices for food at home and a 2.2-percent rise in prices for food away from home.

Energy

The energy index jumped 13.7 percent for the two months ending in July, the fastest bi-monthly rate of increase since April 2019. The increase during the latest period was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (35.0 percent), but rising prices for natural gas service (7.6 percent) also contributed. The index for electricity inched down 0.2 percent for the same period.

Over the year, the energy index fell 12.9 percent. The largest factor in the decline was lower prices for gasoline (-24.9 percent). Counteracting some of this decrease, prices paid for natural gas service and electricity both increased (6.6 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively) during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.9 percent in June and July, after falling 0.5 percent in April and May. The latest bi-monthly period was fueled by higher prices for motor vehicle insurance (29.9 percent) and household furnishings and operations (3.2 percent). These increases were partially offset by lower prices for shelter (-0.3 percent) and for education and communication (-0.8 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.4 percent. Index components contributing to the increase included shelter (2.8 percent), medical care (5.3 percent), and household furnishings and operations (4.9 percent). Partly offsetting these increases were price declines in new and used motor vehicles (-6.2 percent) and apparel (-5.4 percent).

The September 2020 Consumer Price Index for All Items for Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington is scheduled to be released Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impact on July 2020 Consumer Price Index Data

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in July was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed. While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index for Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington is published bi-monthly. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details, see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, *The Consumer Price Index*, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas, Core Based Statistical Area** includes the counties of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from -		
	May 2020	Jun. 2020	Jul. 2020	Jul. 2019	May 2020	Jun. 2020
All items	236.317	-	239.888	0.4	1.5	-
All items (1967 = 100)	741.312	-	752.514			
Food and beverages	263.803	-	264.429	2.3	0.2	-
Food	257.102	-	258.025	2.2	0.4	-
Food at home	217.341	216.958	216.626	2.3	-0.3	-0.2
Cereals and bakery products	260.866	-	257.601	-0.8	-1.3	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	256.258	-	249.259	5.3	-2.7	-
Dairy and related products	197.639	-	193.101	1.8	-2.3	-
Fruits and vegetables	189.311	-	193.063	-0.2	2.0	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	193.775	-	195.731	5.9	1.0	-
Other food at home	202.830	-	204.821	1.0	1.0	-
Food away from home	316.759	-	320.262	2.2	1.1	-
Alcoholic beverages	353.740	-	350.066	2.5	-1.0	-
Housing	238.598	-	238.954	3.0	0.1	-
Shelter	268.233	266.467	267.427	2.8	-0.3	0.4
Rent of primary residence	286.580	286.647	288.312	4.7	0.6	0.6
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(2)	289.015	288.303	289.356	3.4	0.1	0.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(2)	289.015	288.303	289.356	3.4	0.1	0.4
Fuels and utilities	249.574	-	251.052	2.6	0.6	-
Household energy	218.326	218.439	220.338	1.4	0.9	0.9
Energy services	214.998	214.981	216.821	1.5	0.8	0.9
Electricity	208.514	208.514	208.132	0.7	-0.2	-0.2
Utility (piped) gas service	186.639	186.531	200.827	6.6	7.6	7.7
Household furnishings and operations	119.660	-	123.482	4.9	3.2	-
Apparel	103.957	-	103.892	-5.4	-0.1	-
Transportation	175.989	-	193.122	-9.6	9.7	-
Private transportation	178.563	-	197.597	-9.1	10.7	-
New and used motor vehicles(3)	100.780	-	102.695	-6.2	1.9	-
New vehicles(1)	186.620	-	187.704	-8.8	0.6	-
Used cars and trucks(1)	323.916	-	331.430	-0.6	2.3	-
Motor fuel	135.570	165.454	182.441	-24.9	34.6	10.3
Gasoline (all types)	134.345	164.371	181.398	-24.9	35.0	10.4
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)	127.108	156.482	173.007	-25.5	36.1	10.6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)	151.874	182.771	198.824	-22.9	30.9	8.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)	164.124	190.591	207.627	-20.3	26.5	8.9
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	582.991	-	757.045	-3.3	29.9	-
Medical care	477.670	-	477.748	5.3	0.0	-
Recreation(3)	122.316	-	123.451	2.7	0.9	-
Education and communication(3)	133.284	-	132.180	-0.3	-0.8	-
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ...	1,292.397	-	1,258.637	-1.3	-2.6	-
Other goods and services	414.663	-	425.268	1.8	2.6	-
Commodity and service group						
Commodities	168.120	-	172.693	-3.2	2.7	-
Commodities less food and beverages	127.820	-	133.391	-6.2	4.4	-
Nondurables less food and beverages	152.821	-	164.151	-8.4	7.4	-
Durables	105.853	-	106.959	-3.6	1.0	-
Services	302.731	-	305.333	2.5	0.9	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less shelter	221.947	-	227.627	-0.9	2.6	-
All items less medical care	224.733	-	228.439	0.0	1.6	-
Commodities less food	133.199	-	138.614	-5.9	4.1	-

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from -		
	May 2020	Jun. 2020	Jul. 2020	Jul. 2019	May 2020	Jun. 2020
Nondurables	202.350	-	209.230	-3.0	3.4	-
Nondurables less food.....	161.931	-	172.574	-7.6	6.6	-
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	347.668	-	355.571	1.9	2.3	-
Services less medical care services.....	284.465	-	287.172	1.9	1.0	-
Energy	178.030	192.945	202.353	-12.9	13.7	4.9
All items less energy	245.301	-	247.299	1.5	0.8	-
All items less food and energy	243.196	-	245.349	1.4	0.9	-

Footnotes

(1) Indexes on a February 1978=100 base.

(2) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Index on a December 1993=100.

- Data not available.